



**Tuesday, January 30, 2024**  
Virtual via Microsoft Teams  
Call-in Number: 1-802-828-7667  
Conference ID: 308 477 107#

## **State Board of Education Education Quality Standards Rule Update Committee**

### **Draft Meeting Minutes**

Present: Kim Gleason, Tammy Kolbe, Richard Werner, Grey Fearon, Mohamed Diop

Others: Sarah Buxton, Attorney; Representative Elizabeth Burrows

Agency of Education (AOE): Maureen Gaidys

#### ***Call to Order, Roll Call, and Amendments to the Agenda***

Gleason called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. and took roll call. There were no amendments to the agenda.

Gleason acknowledged that there was not a lot of space created at the January 23 SBE Special meeting for a full committee discussion as is typically the case. She apologized and is hopeful that in this space, they can pivot and focus/refocus on the role of the EQS committee.

Diop shared that he received [an email from Courtney Poquette](#) advocating for including financial literacy in the EQS and said he would share this with Committee members to consider her request to speak with the Committee. Gleason thanked Diop for sharing the email and noted that while the formal public comment period had closed, there is also the opportunity for public comment at the beginning of each meeting.

Werner asked for some clarification from the last Special SBE meeting and said he had trouble tracking what was happening. Kolbe responded that she and Gleason met with Chair Samuelson to discuss process and the process is to 1) proceed with resolving comments, 2) identify specific issues that require legal advice and request that, 3) based on legal advice, discuss issues or not, 4) make necessary changes to respond to public comment, 5) vote this out of Committee, and 6) bring this to the full SBE and proceed from there.

Gleason again acknowledged the challenges with the January 23 Special SBE meeting and that was not the normal cadence of the meetings, and they expect to have more space for discussion going forward.

Werner moved to approve the [December 19, 2023](#) meeting minutes; Kolbe seconded. There was no discussion. Gleason called the vote. The vote passed.

***Public to be Heard***

Representative Burrows thanked the group for the recent conversation and asked to read a [letter that was sent to the State Board of Education from several members of the General Assembly](#) (Arsenault, Carpenter, Christie, Burrows, Graning, Holcombe, and Sibia) regarding the January 23 SBE Special meeting.

***Working Session: Consideration/processing of public comments for EQS***

Buxton suggested addressing the outstanding issues, minus the definitions and detailed the overarching themes: curriculum specific to instruction on antisemitism, professional development/teacher resources and general comments.

Buxton referenced the [spreadsheet with public comments still outstanding](#) and Committee members addressed public comments received from Eliza Doucet, Susan and Barry Feinberg, Laurie Greenberg, Lawrence Jenkyn, Deborah Kaplan, Debra Ann Pinsof-DePillis, Jonathan Rosenbloom, Vermont Holocaust Memorial, Emma Doucet, Dan Gottsegen, Alyssa Chen, Arline Rotman, Deborah Steinerman, Windsor County Senators (McCormack, Clarkson, White), Judy Alexander, Carol Anderson, James and Judith Bernat, Ellen Betterman, Michael Betterman, Brooke Blicher, Selma Bornstein, Jill Bradford, Ariel Cahn-Flores, A. Cohen, Gered Dunne, Nicole Johnson Gottsegen, Ilene Haigh, Nir Jacoby, Beth Kanell, Roseanne Kramer, Susan LeDrew, Dina Litz, Joslyn Meier, S. Miller, Daphne Moritz, Seth Reimer, Rojansky Family, Maya Sobel, Susanna Stein, Matthew Vogel, Carolyn Weiss, Erin Maguire, Ethan Felson, Eli Francis, Jamie Spector, Dana Decker, Vermont Superintendents Association, Amanda Garces, Rabbi Weisman, Maria Davies, Jamilah Freya Vogel, Liz Curry, Addie Lentzner, and Gianni Solorzano.

Buxton will summarize her assignments related to or raised during the discussion of public comment submitted for EQS and share those with Kolbe and Gleason to review. Gleason and Kolbe will follow up with Buxton on some specific questions for legal review. There was discussion on the date for the next Committee meeting. The Committee will hold Tuesday, February 6, 2024, from 4-6:00 p.m. Kolbe asked if the Committee was comfortable signaling to Chair Samuelson that the goal is to have these rules ready for the March SBE meeting. There was agreement.

***Adjourn***

Werner moved to adjourn; Kolbe seconded. There was no discussion. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Maureen Gaidys